UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/650,165	08/28/2003	Curtis Reese	100202879-1	7054

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EXAMINER
PHAM, THIERRY L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/13/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _02 October 2007_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-21_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-21_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

    1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

    2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

    3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

● This action is responsive to the following communication: an Amendment filed on 10/2/07.

● Claims 1-21 are currently pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hemstreet et al (US 6931447).

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Regarding claim 1, Hemstreet discloses a method for remotely monitoring a printer status (printer status monitoring, fig. 2), comprising the steps of:

● selecting a printer status object from among a list of selectable printer status objects (status event, fig. 2) in a remote client in data communication with a printer;

● generating an email (generating status request email, fig. 1a and fig. 2, col. 8, lines 16-60) in the remote client (client 111, fig. 1a);

● writing a status request into the email (email format, fig. 1a and 4a-44f) in a printer management language native (col. 11, lines 25-35) to the printer, the status request requesting a current status of the printer status object in the printer;

● transmitting (transmitting via network, fig. 1a) the email to the printer; and

● receiving a reply email (sample reply email from printer, fig. 3) from the printer that includes the current status (e.g. ink status, fig. 3) of the printer status object in the printer, the current status being expressed in the printer management language native to the printer.

Regarding claim 2, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

● generating an initial email in the remote client (fig. 1a and fig. 2, col. 8, lines 16-60);

● writing a request for the list of selectable printer status objects (e.g. fig. 2) into the initial email;

● receiving an initial reply email (fig. 2-3) from the printer, the initial reply including the list of selectable printer status objects; and

● parsing the initial reply email to obtain the list of selectable printer status objects (fig. 2-3) from the initial reply email.

Regarding claim 3, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the step of obtaining the list of selectable printer status objects from a server (server 107, notes: server 107 is embedded in printer 105) in data communication with the remote client.

Regarding claim 4, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of: parsing the reply email to identify the current status of the printer status object (fig. 3); and displaying the current status associated with the printer status object (fig. 3).

Regarding claim 5, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the reply email with the current status (fig. 3) of the printer status object.

Regarding claim 6, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the list of selectable printer status objects on a display device (client's monitor, fig. 3).

Regarding claim 7, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 6, wherein the step of displaying the list of selectable printer status objects on the display device further comprises the step of displaying a name (e.g. fig. 3) of each of the printer status objects in the printer management language native to the printer.

Regarding claim 8, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 6, wherein the step of displaying the list of selectable printer status objects on the display device further comprises the steps of: mapping a name of each the selectable printer status objects expressed in the printer management language native to the printer to a corresponding user friendly name (fig. 3); and displaying the corresponding user friendly name for each of the selectable printer status objects.

Regarding claim 9, Hemstreet discloses a method for reporting a printer status to a remote client, comprising the steps of:

• receiving an email in a printer (receiving email message from client 111, fig. 1) from the remote client, the email including a request for a status of a printer status object (status request email, fig. 1a and fig. 2, col. 8, lines 16-60) in the printer, the request being expressed in a printer management language native to the printer;

• parsing (filter 127, fig. 1b) the email in the printer to obtain the request therefrom;

● submitting the request for the status of the printer status object directly to a printer management subsystem (server 107, note: server 107 is embedded within printer 105) in the printer without altering the request, the printer management subsystem maintaining (status server 109 and 121, fig. 1b) a status of a plurality of predefined printer status objects in the printer;

● writing a current status (sample status as shown in fig. 3) of the printer status object provided by the printer management subsystem into a reply email; and

● transmitting (transmitting via network, fig. 1) the reply email to the remote client.

Regarding claim 10, Hemstreet further discloses a system (system, fig. 1a) for remotely monitoring printer status, comprising:

● a processor circuit (client 111, fig. 1a) having a processor and a memory;

● a remote printer management system (server 107, fig. 1b) stored in the memory and executable by the processor, the printer monitoring system comprising:

● logic that facilitates a selection of a printer status object from among a list of selectable printer status objects (lists of selectable objects, fig. 2);

● logic that generates an email (generating status request email, fig. 1a and fig. 2, col. 8, lines 16-60) to be transmitted to a printer;

● logic that writes a request for a status of the printer status object in the printer into the email (email format, fig. 1a and 4a-44f), the request being expressed in a printer management language native to the printer; and

● logic that transmits (transmitting via network, fig. 1a) the email to the printer to receive a reply email (reply email includes printer's status, fig. 3) from the printer that includes the current status of the printer status object in the printer.

Regarding claim 11, Hemstreet further discloses the system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises:

● logic that generates an initial email (fig. 1a and fig. 2, col. 8, lines 16-60)to be transmitted to the printer;

● logic that writes a request for the list of selectable printer status objects (e.g. fig. 2) into the initial email; and

● logic that parses an initial reply email (fig. 3) received from the printer to identify the list of selectable printer status objects included in the initial reply email.

Regarding claim 12, Hemstreet further discloses the system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises logic that requests the list of selectable printer status objects (fig. 3) from a server through a network.

Regarding claim 13, Hemstreet 'further discloses the system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises:

● logic that parses the reply email to identify the current status of the printer status object (fig. 3) included therein; and

● logic that displays the current status (fig. 3) associated with the printer status object.

Regarding claim 14, Hemstreet further discloses the system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises logic that displays the list of selectable printer status objects on a display device by displaying a name (fig. 3) of each of the printer status objects in the printer management language native to the printer.

Regarding claim 15, Hemstreet further discloses the system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises logic that displays the list of selectable printer status objects on a display device by: mapping a name of each the selectable printer status objects expressed in the printer management language native to the printer to a corresponding user friendly name (fig. 3); and displaying the corresponding user friendly name for each of the selectable printer status objects.

Regarding claims 16-19 recite limitation that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claims 1-4 above; therefore, claims 16-19 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claims 1-4.

Regarding claims 20-21 recite limitation that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claim 1 above; therefore, claims 20-21 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claim 1.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 10/2/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
● Regarding claim 1, the applicants argued the cited prior art of record (US 6931447 to Hemstreet et al) fails to teach and/or suggest the concept of selecting a printer status object from among a list of selectable printer status objects in a remote client, wherein the status request is embodied in a printer status management language that is recognizable by the printer.

In response, the examiner fully disagrees with applicants' assertions/arguments. Hemstreet clearly teaches a method of selecting (check box 203, fig. 2) a printer status object from among a list of selectable printer status objects (plurality of printer status objects including ink low, out of paper, service, door open, and etc, fig. 2) in a remote client (client computer 1, fig. 1a) in data communication with a printer (printer as shown in fig. 1b), wherein the status request is embodied in a printer status management language that is recognizable by the printer (printer as taught by Hemstreet having an embedded server 107 for interpreting plurality of languages

including HTML, email, PML, fig. 1b, col. 4, lines 60-67 and col. 11, lines 25-47). As clearly stated in col. 8, lines 30-47, wherein an incoming email message (e.g. email message including printer status request) is deciphered and to generate a reply message to the client the printer status via email (col. 8, lines 40-48). Moreover, col. 8, lines 48-67, wherein Hemstreet clearly teaches "a client 111 can have the printer 105 performs tasks via an email message, "device configuration over e-mail, device query over e-mail, device diagnostics over e-mail, and device tasks over e-mail". Hemstreet can obtain printer status via e-mail; configure the printer via email, and etc. Therefore, Hemstreet clearly teaches all the features/limitations as cited in claim 1.

• Regarding claim 2, the applicants argued the cite prior art of record (Hemstreet et al) fails to teach and/or suggest writing a request for the list of selectable printer status objects into the e-mail message and receiving a reply with the list of selectable printer status objects from the printer.

In response, the examiner herein fully disagrees. Hemstreet clearly teaches a method for writing a request for the list of selectable printer status objects (e.g. fig. 2) into the initial email; and receiving an initial reply email (fig. 2-3) from the printer, the initial reply including the list of selectable printer status objects. Fig. 2 is *an example* of printer status objects list that allows the client to select the type of the diagnostics and/or status the client receive would like to receive via email. Printer status request can be obtained via using a web page as shown in fig. 2 or using email application provided in client's apparatus. Furthermore on col. 9, lines 8-20, wherein it states "an e-mail message containing a device query is sent by a client and is received into the EMH 124 component. The filter 127 component examines the contents and forwards it to a query handler subroutine which executes the query to the DSM 121 component to obtain the current status related to the query". Clearly, this teaching addresses the applicants' arguments. Hemstreet also teaches "a client 111 can have the printer 105 performs tasks via an email message, "device configuration over e-mail, device query over e-mail, device diagnostics over e-mail, and device tasks over e-mail". Hemstreet can obtain printer status via e-mail; configure the printer via email, and etc, fig. 1a, col. 8, lines 48-67 and col. 11, lines 1-25. The applicants herein

based his/her arguments plainly on fig. 2 without considering a disclosure as taught by Hemstreet as a whole. Also notes: email application such as Microsoft Outlook (col. 8, lines 34-35) allows devices to transmit email messages along with attachment, wherein printer status objects list can be embedded in the body of the e-mail or embedded as an attachment.

● Regarding claim 3, the applicants argued the cited prior art of record (Hemstreet et al) fails to teach and/or suggest obtaining the list of selectable printer status objects from a server in data communication with the remote client.

In response, the examiner herein fully disagrees. Printer as taught Hemstreet is embedded with a server 107, wherein it performs plurality of tasks include transmitting the list of selectable printer status objects as shown in fig. 2. Server 107 including plurality of subsystems (e.g. web server 108 for displaying web pages including a list of printer status objects as shown in fig. 2 that can be viewed by users, status server 109, DSM 121 is a server program to send appropriate e-mail to clients in response to event detection (col. 8, lines 10-30), and EMH 125 for sending and receiving emails. In other words, any data can be transmitted between two devices (printer and client apparatus) including list of printer status objects using e-mail application such as Microsoft Outlook or HTML format. Fig. 3 is an exemplary of a message that is communicated between two devices (e.g. printer and client apparatus). Hemstreet can obtain printer status via e-mail; configure the printer via email, and etc, fig. 1a, col. 8, lines 48-67 and col. 11, lines 1-25. Also notes: email application such as Microsoft Outlook (col. 8, lines 34-35) allows devices to transmit email messages along with attachment, wherein printer status objects list can be embedded in the body of the e-mail or embedded as an attachment.

● Regarding claims 7 & 8, the applicants argued the cited prior art of record (Hemstreet) fails to teach and/or suggest how printer status objects are displayed. In particular, the printer status may be displayed in the printer management language native to the printer or by using friendly names.

In response, the examiner herein fully disagrees. Fig. 2 shows an example of a list of printer status object that is displayed in HTML format by using friendly names that can be comprehend by wide range of users. Notes: printer as taught by Hemstreet contains an embedded server that is capable of understanding and compatible with plurality of languages (e.g. HTML, PLM, Adobe, e-mail, and C++).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thierry L. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-7439. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30 AM - 6:00 PM).
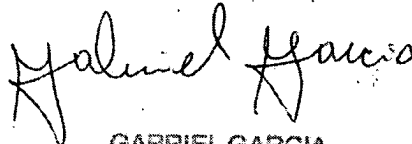
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571)272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thierry L. Pham

GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER